

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUCHAR 02295 211427 Z

42

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 SAJ-01 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01

RSR-01 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 MBFR-03 ACDA-19 MC-02

COME-00 TRSE-00 NIC-01 /113 W  
----- 015786

R 211350 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5703

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USNATO 0805

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

DIA WASHDC

EUCOM

USAREUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 2295

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI RO AU CH KN

SUBJECT: VISITS OF ROMANIAN CHIEF OF STAFF TO AUSTRIA,

CHINA AND NORTH KOREA

REF: BUCHAREST 2245 (NOTAL)

1. AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR SAUTTER HAS TOLD US THAT ROMANIAN CHIEF OF STAFF ION GHEORGHE WAS CHIEFLY INTERESTED DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO AUSTRIA IN VISITING AN AUSTRIAN ARMAMENTS COMPANY. GENERAL ION WAS ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN TANKS AND IN ARMORED CARS ( FOR MOUNTAIN TROOP USE) FRODUCED BY THIS FIRM, ACCORDING TO SAUTTER.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BUCHAR 02295 211427 Z

2. THERE HAS BEEN SOME SPECULATION IN BUCHAREST DIPLOMATIC CORPS THAT GENERAL ION MAY BE INTERESTED IN PROCURING ARMAMENTS DURING HIS CURRENT VISIT TO CHINA ALTHOUGH WE KNOW OF NO HARD INFORMATION TO BACK UP THIS LINE OF SPECULATION. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT IS OUR IMPRESSION FROM OUR TALKS WITH BOTH SOVIET AND ROMANIAN OFFICIALS AFTER THE GRECHKO VISIT TO BUCHAREST IN APRIL THAT THE SOVIETS AND ROMANIANS HAVE WRANGLLED OVER PRICE AND TYPES OF EQUIPMENT (SOVIET COUNSELLOR PESHCHERSKY SAID GRECHKO DISCUSSED "HEAVY EQUIPMENT" DESIRED BY ROMANIANS DURING HIS APRIL VISIT BUT THAT SOVIETS WOULD MEET SOME BUT NOT ALL OF ROMANIAN DESIRES). IF SOVIETS ARE TRYING TO PALM OFF OBSOLESCENT EQUIPMENT OR ARE ASKING EXCESSIVE PRICES AND IF GOR WANTS MORE MODERN EQUIPMENT THAN IS BEING OFFERED (AND WANTS TO DIVERSIFY ANYWAY), IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE THAT ROMANIANS ARE SEEKING TO OBTAIN EQUIPMENT ELSEWHERE OR AT LEAST TO CONVEY SUCH IMPRESSION TO SOVIETS FOR BARGAINING PURPOSES.

3. CHINESE MILITARY ATTACHE TOLD FRENCH THAT GENERAL ION IS ACCCOMPANIED BY VICE- ADMIRAL SANDU ( CHIEF OF NAVY SECTION OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF); GENERAL GHERGUTZ ( COMMANDER OF MOUNTAIN TROOPS), AND THREE COLONELS, ONE OF WHOM IDENTIFIED AS A DEPUTY TO GENERAL OPRITA ( HEAD OF ARMY POLITICAL DIRECTORATE). CHINESE ATTACHE SAID THAT ROMANIAN DELEGATION HAD A "WORKING MEETING" AT MOSCOW AIRPORT DURING A FOUR HOUR STOP WITH "ONE OF THE DEPUTY CHIEFS OF STAFF OF THE SOVIET ARMY."

4. ACCORDING TO JUNE 21 PRESS ACCOUNTS, GENERAL ION WAS MET ON ARRIVAL IN PEKING JUNE 20 BY LI TE- SHENG, DIRECTOR OF THE ARMY GENERAL POLITICAL DIRECTORATE.

5. NOTWITHSTANDING WHATEVER FOCUS ION VISIT MAY HAVE, WE BELIEVE IT LIKELY TO BE CHARACTERIZED AS A FRIENDLY RETURN VISIT TO AUGUST 1971 VISIT HERE OF LI TE- SHENG AND IN KEEPING WITH ANNOUNCED GOR POLICY OF FOSTERING GOOD BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN ROMANIAN AND OTHER FOREIGN ARMIES, BE THEY WP, NATO, OTHER SOCIALIST OR NEUTRAL.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BUCHAR 02295 211427 Z

MARTENS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 JUN 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** willialc  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973BUCHAR02295  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** RR  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** BUCHAREST  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730628/aaaajncb.tel  
**Line Count:** 114  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 BUCHAREST 2245 (NOTAL)  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** willialc  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <15-Aug-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <29-Aug-2001 by willialc>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 980224  
**Subject:** VISITS OF ROMANIAN CHIEF OF STAFF TO AUSTRIA, CHINA AND NORTH KOREA  
**TAGS:** MILI, AU, CH, KN, RO  
**To:** BELGRADE  
BERLIN  
BUDAPEST  
EUR  
MOSCOW  
PRAGUE  
SECSTATE WASHDC

USNATO

VIENNA

Type: TE

**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005